Sheet	1	- E	1

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 20996-002US1	Application No. 10/596,066	
by A	closure Statement pplicant	Applicant Geoffrey Brent et al.		
(Use several sheets if necessary)		Filing Date	Group Art Unit	
(37 CFR 61 98(b))		April 12, 2007	3641	

U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA						

Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner	Desig.	Document	Publication	Country or			Trans	slation
Initial	ID	Number	Date	Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Yes	No
	AB	WO 02/057707	07/25/02	WIPO			x	
	AC	KR 2003- 009743	02/05/03	Korea			x	

	Other D	ocuments (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	AD	Burrell M.J., "Innovative Blasting Practice at Sands Hill Coal Company, Proceedings of the 16th Annual Conference on Explosives and Blasting Technique Orlando, Florida, USA, International Society of Explosives Engineers, 1990, pp. 1-4
	AE	Campbell, Richard, A., "Multiple Seam Surface Mining", Mining Congress Journal, Vol. 56(8), pp71-75, 1970
	AF	Chironis, N.P., "Blast Casting Succeeds at Multi-Seam Western Mine", Coal Age, November, Vol. 90(11), pp55-58, 1985
	AG	Chung S.H. et al., "Computer Design and Field Application of Sub-Seam and Multi-Seam Blasts in Steeply Dipping Coal Seams", Proceedings of the Eleventh Conference on Explosives and Blasting Technique, San Diego, California, USA, International Society of Explosives Engineers, 1985, pp. 42-48
	AH	Jackson, Dan, "Multi-Seam Surface Mining in West", Coal Age, March, Vol. 82 (No. 3), 1977, pp. 64-70
	AI	Laybourne R.A., et al., "The Unique Combination of Drilling and Blasting Problems Faced by New Vaal Colliery, RSA", 95th Annual General Meeting, Petroleum Society of CIM, 1993, No. 93, CIM Montreal
	AJ	Mandal, S.K. et al., "Segregation of coal by single-shot blasting of composite strata in opencast mines", Institution of Mining and Metallurgy, ISSN: 0371-7844, 2001, pp. A69-A72
	AK	McDonald, K.L. et al., "Productivity improvements for dragline operations using controlled blasting in a single- and multiple-seam openact coal operation at Rietspruit, South Africa", CIM Bulletin, Volume 76, No. 851, 1983, pp. 154-156
	AL	Merritt, Paul, C., "Kentucky Mine Finds Rewards in Cast Blasting", Coal Age, December, Vol 92 (12), 1987, pp. 66-67
	AM	Orica Explosives, Safe and Efficient Blasting in Surface Coal Mines, Chapter 10, 1998, pp. 156-159
	AN	White, P.E. et al., "Controlled Blasting in a Double-Seam Opencast Operation as applied at Rietspruit", Papers and Discussions - Association of Mine Managers, South Africa, 1982, pp. 351-390

Examiner Signature	Date Considered			
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with				

next communication to applicant.